

A
Plain and Easie Method

FOR

Preserving [by God's Blessing]
those that are WELL from the
Infection of the

PLAQUE,
OR

Any Contagious Distemper in City,
Camp, Fleet, &c.

AND

For Curing such as are Infected
with it.

Written in the Year 1666.

By *Tho. Willis*, M.D. late Sidney Professor in *Oxford*, and a Member of the Royal Society and College of Physicians in *London*.

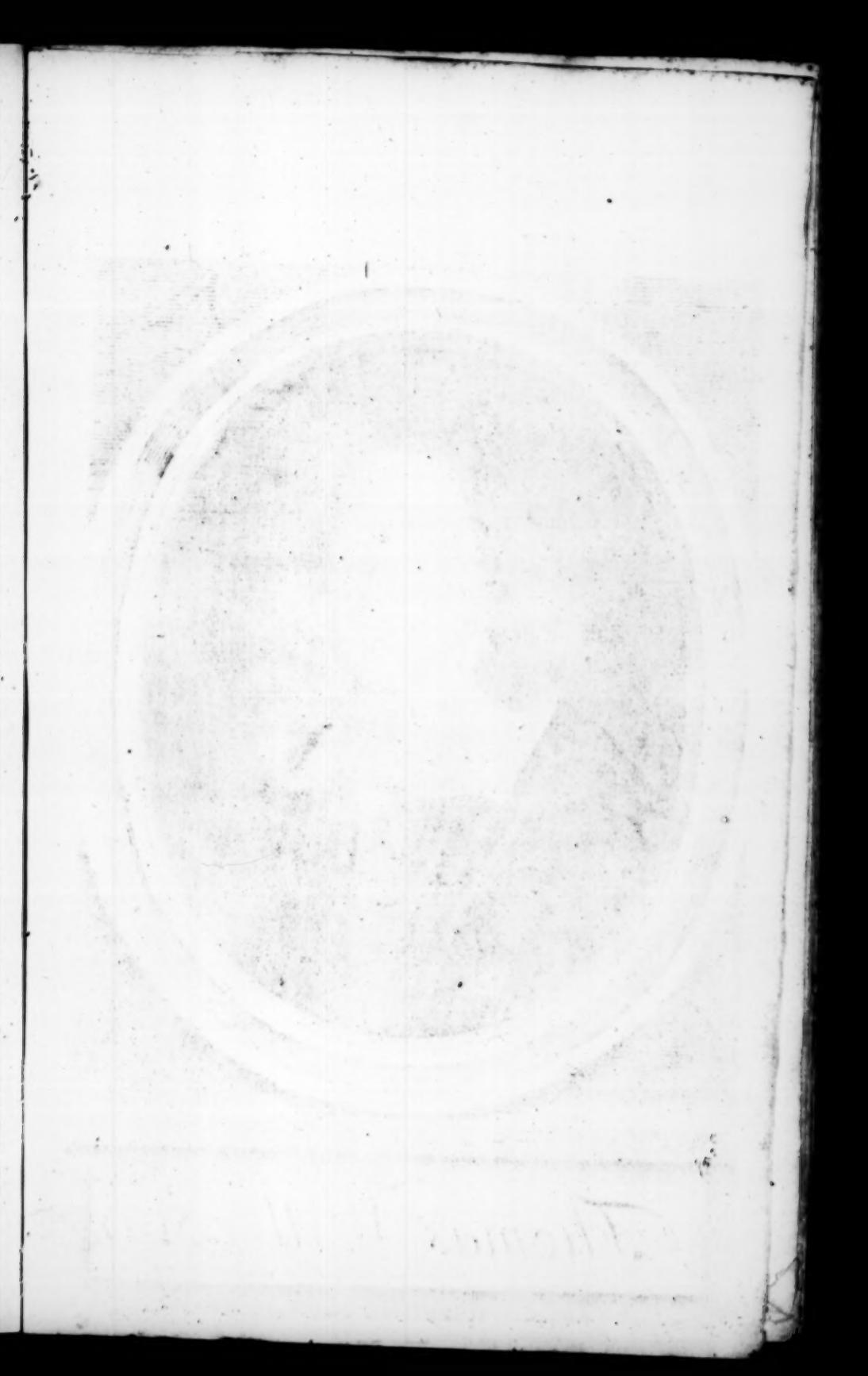
With a Poem on the virtue of a Laurel Leaf for curing of a Rheumatism.

By *W. B.*

Never before Printed.

LONDON, Printed for *W. Crook*, at the Green-Dragon, without Temple-Bar. 1691.

C. 104 . dd 76





Thomas Willis M.D.

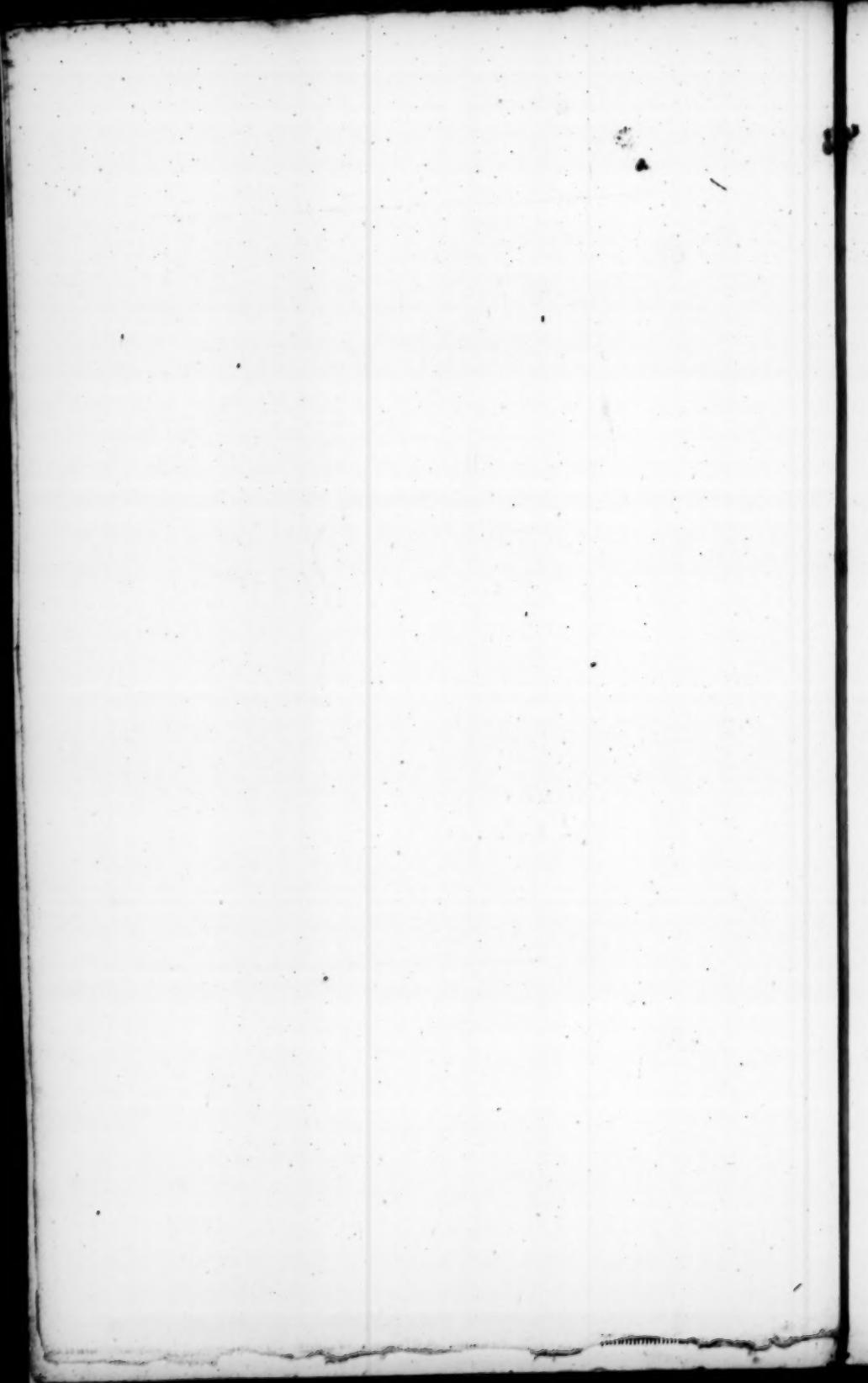
*Libellum hunc de Peste, dignum
judicamus, qui Imprimatur.*

Gualt. Charleton, *Præses*
*Collegii Regalis Me-
dior. Londinens.*

Tho. Burwel.
J. Gordon.
Wil. Dawes.
Tho. Gill. } *Censores.*

Dat. Sepemb. 5. 1690.

*In Comitiis Censoriis ex Edibus Col-
legii nostri.*



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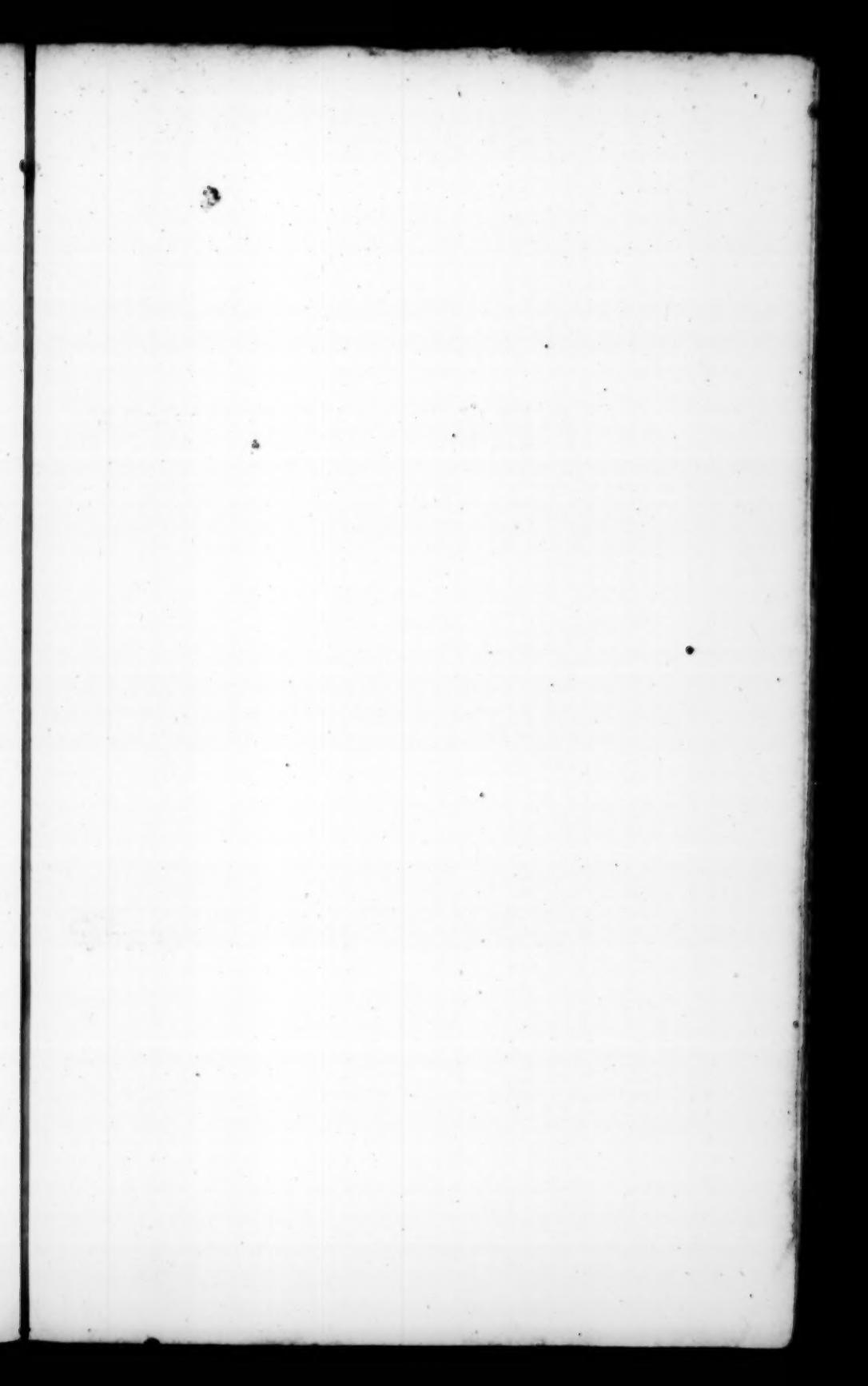
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ERRATA.

PAg. 34 line 2 for *four Ounces*, read *three Ounces*.
p.35 l.14 for *Butter Roots*, r.*Butter-Bur Roots*. p.38
l. 13 for *half an Ounce*, r.*half a Scruple*. p. 39 l. 7 for
Bole Armenick, r.*Bole Armoniack*. p.65 l. 13 for *causeth
the swelling*, r.*causeth swelling*. p. 69 l. 6 for *open'd*, r.
ripen'd.



TO THE
READER.

Good Reader,

Having been hitherto veryaverse from Publishing any of Dr. Willis's Posthumous Works, because it may be presum'd that they want his last Hand to compleat them ; and for a that

The Preface.

that Reason, giving no
ear till now to any En-
treaties of that kind,
though never so pow-
erful, or never so im-
portunate: I think my
self oblig'd to give the
World some Account
why I alter'd my mind
as to this particular, and
did at length suffer my
self to be prevail'd with
to Print the follow-
ing Treatise, it being
now Fifteen Years after
his Death; and it is
briefly this: A worthy
Friend

The Preface.

Friend and an old Ac-
quaintance of mine, de-
siring if I knew of,
or could procure any
choice and approv'd Re-
ceipts against the Plague,
that I would furnish
him with some for a
Friend of his, for the
preservation of whose
Health he had a singu-
lar concern, and who
was going in the late
Embassie to *Constantinople*,
where that Distemper
then was, and did fre-
quently rage : I pro-
a 2 mis'd

The Preface.

mis'd to use my utmost endeavours to supply him ; and calling to mind this short Tract, which I transcrib'd from the Doctor's Papers in the Year 1666, being then his *Amanuensis* ; I knew it would far exceed whatsoever I could elsewhere obtain, or pretend to collect upon this Subject : Whereupon I allow'd him to take a Copy of it for his Friend's use, upon condition he would not make

The Preface.

make it publick. But not long since a suspicio-
cious Sickness having feiz'd their Majesties Army in *Ireland*, the same Person was very much of opinion, that the Printing of it might do great service, should that Disease prove Pe-
stilential ; and urg'd such Arguments , as made me to be also of the same perswasion ; especially , he having shew'd the Copy to se-
veral of the most e-
minent

The Preface.

minent Physicians amongst us, whose opinion it was, as he assur'd me, that the Publishing of it might be of very great use, it being a charitable instruction in cases of great danger, for such as cannot procure the attendance of Physicians: I must needs own, that I could not withstand the judgment of such Persons.

The regard I have always had, and shall still have

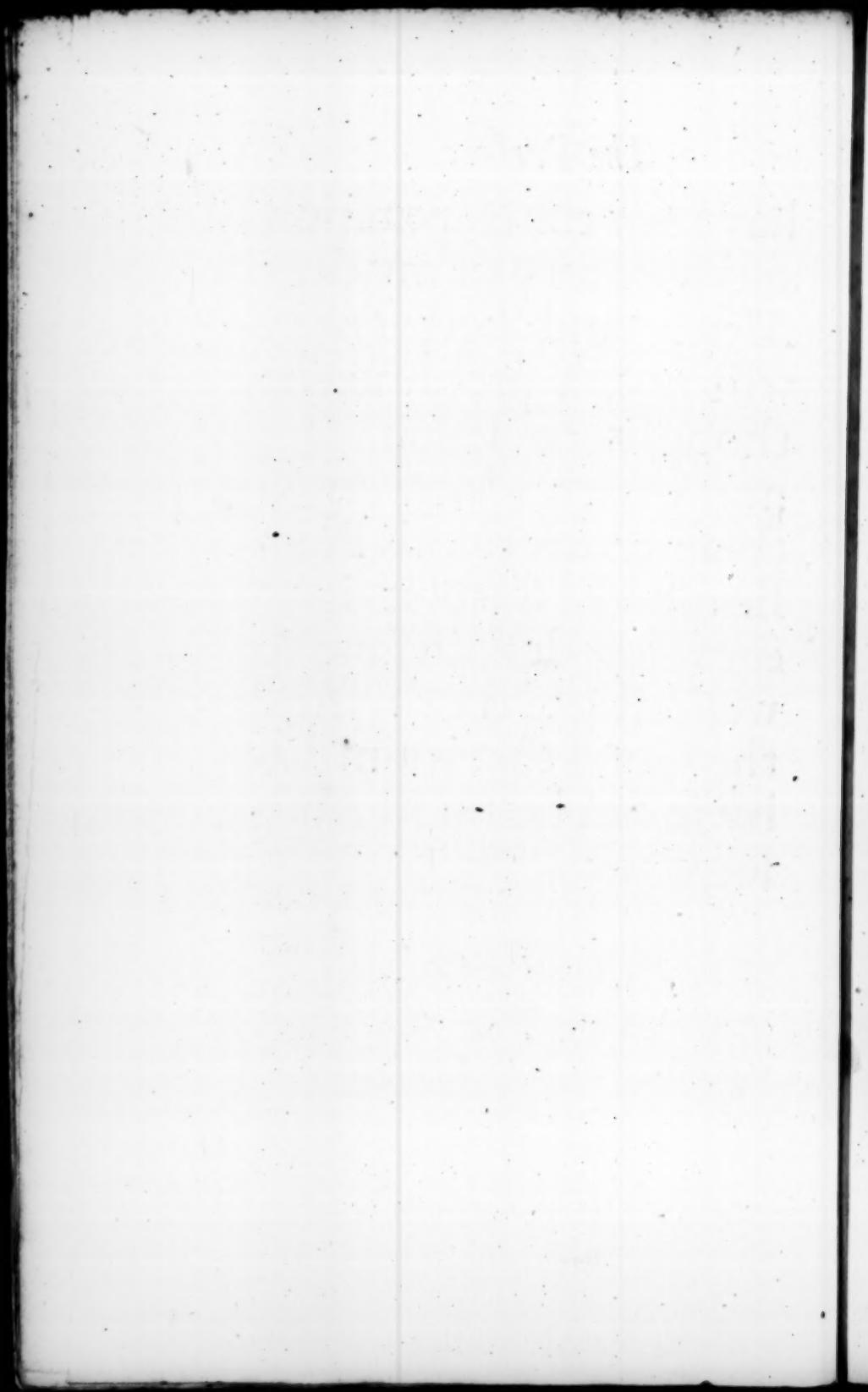
The Preface.

have for the Reputation
and Memory of my dear
Master, and best *Friend*,
will not, I presume, be
thought to lessen, by
my giving way upon
these terms to this Pub-
lication; since it is so
earnestly desir'd, and so
well esteem'd of: And
the Good that is aim'd at
by it can be no ill Apo-
logy for

Thy Friend and Servant,

St. Martins-Lane,
Sept. 1. 1690.

J. Hemming.



A Plain and Easie M E T H O D, &c.

IN time of Pestilence, because a Physician cannot easily, or often, be consulted with; Therefore it behoveth all Persons, as well Poor as Rich, to be furnish'd with Remedies against that Contagious Disease; and certain Rules, or a Method how to use them: Which Method being very plain, and almost the same to all People, consists chiefly in these

two Parts, *viz.* How to pre-serve the Whole from taking Infection; And how to cure the Sick that are infected.

Touching the First; Though the surest way is to fly from it, yet in regard this cannot be done by all, some Means should be us'd to secure [so far as it is pos-sible] those that are forced to stay by it. Such Means of Pre-vention, either concern the Publick Magistrate, which are already sufficiently known, and commonly practis'd in all places that are infected, and it would be superfluous to repeat them here; Or else such as belong to private Persons, what ways eve-ry Man that lives in, or near an infected place, may arm him-self

self against the danger of Contagion ; Which should be endeavour'd, as well by purifying the Air we breathe, as also by fortifying our selves against taking the Infection at our Nostrils, Mouth, or Pores of the Body, which are the chiefest, if not the only parts the Poison creeps in at.

That the **Air** we breathe in may be wholesome, all Things, that may advance or add to the corruption of it, should diligently be removed ; our Houses, and Streets kept clean ; all Filth, and whatever may cause noisome smells, be taken away ; and amongst other things, the smell of Sope-Suds, and Lye, in the washing of Clothes, be avoided ; this, Experience has taught to be very

dangerous; as 'tis observed by
Diemerbroek and **Wander Hey-
den.**

Besides the suppressing of Vapours that may increase the infection of the **Air**, it is to be purg'd of that Malignity it brings with it from other infected places; and this is done by great Fires, which should be continually kept, except the Weather be too hot, and by Fumes of **Sulphur**, **Nitre**, **Frankincense**, **Pitch**, **Rosin**, **Tarr**, and the like, which every day should be burnt in the Room we most frequent, also before our Doors, and on the tops of our Houses. Of simple Medicines to be us'd for this purpose, **Brimstone** is commended for the best that is; 'Tis likely that **Vitriol**, which partakes much of

of the like acid Spirit, may be very proper; but in regard 'tis not easily combustible, make this mixture, and strew of it on Coals in a hot Chafing-dish.

Take green Vitriol calcin'd, Saltpeter, and Sulphur, of each a pound, beat them well together, and keep it for use.

In close Rooms, and in hot Weather, Vinegar with Rue, or Wormwood, chopt small, and evaporated in a perfuming Pot; or else Pestilential Vinegar [as we shall describe] thrown on a hot Brick. Or

take Myrrh, Galbanum, Ammoniac, of each half an Ounce; boyl these in a Quart, or three Pints of White-Wine Vinegar, 'till they are all dissolv'd; put half a spoonful of this at a time on a hot Brick.

Some commend Slakeing of Lime, supposing the fume that ariseth from it, may purifie the Air: 'Tis possible, if this be done with *Vinegar*, either simple, or impregnated with *Alexipharmacal Medicines*, it may be more effectual.

Next to the Cure of the *Air*, to render that as wholesom as we can; we must arm our selves against taking in that Malignity, which [notwithstanding all means of

of purifying it] shall still remain mixt with it. Now because the Spirits are commonly the first that receive Infection ; We must fortifie them, that they may not easily admit the approaches of their Enemy, which when they are in full vigour and expansion, they will repel, and as it were keep off at a distance ; Therefore **Wine** and **Confidence** are a good **Preservative** against the **Plague** : But when the Spirits, through fear, or want of supply, do recede, and are forc'd to give back, the Enemy enters, and first seizeth them, and thence gets into the Blood and Humors ; Therefore much **Fasting** and **Emptiness** are bad : But every one should Eat and Drink at convenient Hours, in such manner

manner and measure, as may always keep the Spirits lively and chearful, and endeavour to compose his Mind and Affecti-
on against fear and sadness.

But besides keeping the Spir-
its in a good height, and more
especially when that cannot be
done, as in Persons that are
naturally fearful, and of a ten-
der Constitution, the Spirits
should constantly, as it were, be
kept arm'd with such Remedies
as resist the Poyson; that is,
the use of proper Antidotes a-
gainst the **Plague**.

I shall set down some **Pre-
serbatives** to be taken of eve-
ry Morning, and again at Night,
by those that live in infected
places.

Take

Take of Conserve of Wood-
Sorrel four Ounces;
Confectio Liberans,
and Mithridate, of
each half an Ounce;
Salt of Wormwood
two Drams; Confection
of Hyacinth one Dram;
Tormentil Roots, and
fine Bole, of each half
a Dram; Pestilential
Vinegar half an Ounce;
mix all with Syrup of
Citron; Take as much
as a Nutmeg, Night
and Morning.

For

For the Poorer Sort, that Medicine of the Ancients, may be proper, viz.

Take of Rue two hand-fuls, Figs and Walnut-Kernels, of each twenty four, common Salt half an Ounce ; Which beat all together in a Mortar, till it be well mix'd ; Take of it as much as a Nutmeg every Morning and Night.

This Medicine may be several ways advanc'd, by adding some *Alexipharmacal* Remedies to it, as by putting Salt of Wormwood, instead

instead of common Salt, and by adding an Ounce of *Venice Treacle*, to the whole Composition.

For those that cannot take an *Electuary*, these *Tablets* may be proper to eat, about one Dram at a time, two or three times a day.

Take of the Roots of Virginian - Snakeweed, Zedoary, Contrayerva, Species Liberans, of each two Drams ; Camphire two Drams ; mix all finely pouder'd, then dissolve eight Ounces of fine

fine Sugar in Pestilential Vinegar; Boyl it Candy high, and adding the Pouder to it, make all into Lozenges.

For some that are of a hotter Constitution, and a high Sanguine Temper, it may be proper to take every Morning a spoonful of Pestilential *Vinegar* in a little *Carduus* water, or plain *Walnut* water; or else drink a draught of *Posset-Drink*, made with a Spoonful of that *Vinegar*.

Let the **Pestilential Vinegar** be made thus.

Take

*Take of the Roots of Angelica, Butter-Burr,
Tormentil, Elecam-pane, of each half an Ounce,
Virginian -- Snake-Weed, choice Zedoary, Contrayerva, of
each three Drams ; Leaves of Scordium, Rue, Goats-Rue, of
each one handful ; Marigold Flowers, Clove-gilloflowers, of each
half a handful ; Seeds of Citron and Carduus, of each two Drams ;
Cut and bruise these, and put*

put them in a Glass-Bottle, with three Pints of the best Vinegar, to digest for ten days.

When the Stomach, by frequent taking of one sort of **Antidote**, begins to loath it: In such Cases the use of it may be changed into some other: And if the Stomach withal should be ill, and defective, in Appetite and Digestion; let the Party take every Morning, ten or twelve Drops of **Elixir Proprietatis**, in plain Wormwood Water, or else in Wormwood Wine.

Those that have Coughs, and ill Lungs, may take five or six Drops of **Balsam of Sulphur**, made thus.

Take

Take Flower of Sulphur,
two Ounces, melt it in an
Earthen Dish glaz'd on
the fire, then put to it
two Ounces of Salt of
Wormwood; stir it
for a Quarter of an Hour,
taking care that it does
not catch fire; Then put
into it of Aloes, Myrrh,
Olibanum, finely pou-
der'd, of each one Dram,
of Saffron half a Dram;
Keep this stirring half a
Quarter of an Hour;
Take it off, and put half
an Ounce of it powder'd,
to

to digest in five or six Ounces of good Spirit of Wine ; It will take in a short time a very excellent Tincture : Which keep for use.

Or else this Balsam may be made with *Spiritus Theriacalis Camphoratus*, and so will be more effectual against the **Plague**, Or which is more applicable to use,

Put an Ounce of that Powder newly made, into a pretty large Glass, and put to it a Quart of good

good Sack; Set it in a gentle heat, for three or four Hours; it will take a Tincture: And of this one may take half a Spoonful at a time: And I suppose two Spoonfuls in a convenient Vehicle, may be a good Sudorific to be given one that is infected.

Though Purging in time of Pestilence is not good, as **Dierbroek** by frequent Examples has observ'd, yet in *Cachochymick* Bodies, it may be convenient once in a fortnight, to take a Dose of *Pillulæ Ruffi*; Take C half

half a Dram at Night, and next Morning take the wonted Antidote, as at other times.

Also for those that live in an infected Air, that there is suspicion that they may daily take in some pestiferous Vapours, which fermenting with the Blood and Humours, may insensibly at last break out in the **Plague**; it may not be amiss, once or twice a week, to take pretty large **Sweats** in their Beds: And this to be done, especially if the Party has had any occasion whereby he may suspect himself to have been more open to infection, or that he has taken any: After such Sweat he should keep his Chamber the forepart of the day, till the Pores are reduc'd to be as they were before.

To

To provoke such a Sweat:
Take of Venice Treacle, one Dram; dissolve it in three Ounces of Carduus Water, add a Spoonful of Syrup of Pestilential Vinegar; Or take a Draught of Posset-Drink, made with Pestilential Vinegar; In which boyl a few Petasitis Roots: To promote and continue the Sweat, take Posset-Drink with Meadow-Sweet, or else with Carduus, or Marigold-Flowers boyl'd in it.

C 2 Besides

Besides the daily and constant use of such *Alexipharmacal* Remedies, there are other Means, which occasionally and sometimes continually should be taken. For in regard we always draw in the Air at our Nostrils and Mouth, these parts should be well guarded with some Antidotes, that may keep out the poysonous Vapours from entring in, and especially as often as upon occasion we are more nearly expos'd to danger of Infection. To this end, some things to smell to, others to be held in the Mouth, chew'd, and swallow'd down, are frequently to be insisted on.

That which seems at once to fulfil most of these intentions, is taking of Tobacco in a Pipe; the Smoke of this secures those parts which lye

lye openest, and at once intercepts the Contagion from the Brain, Lungs, and Stomach: Nay more than this, it stirs the Blood and Spirits all the Body over, and makes them shake off any poysonous Matter that adher'd to them: Insomuch that **Diemerbroek** accounts it not only a Preservative, but tells us, that himself, when he was several times infected, by taking five or six Pipes of Tobacco together was presently cur'd. And amongst us in *England* 'tis reported, That in the last great Plague, no Tobacco-Shop was infected: If 'tis not of so great virtue still amongst us, the reason is, because most Men have been accustomed to take it so excessively; wherefore it is grown so familiar to them, that it produceth no al-

teration when it should be us'd as an Antidote.

Besides the frequent use of Tobacco, which doubtless in time of Plague may be profitable for them that can take it; others, and also Tobacconists, at some times should be furnished with something to smell to when they pass through infected Places. *Wormwood* and *Rue*, *Galbanum*, *Castor* and *Vinegar* are good: The vulgar practice of putting *Mithridate*, or *Treacle*, or *Tar* in their Nostrils, may be very useful; or to have a *Pomander* to carry in ones hand, or put into the top of a Staff.

Take of the Roots of Con-
trayerva and Virginian-Snakeweed pou-
der'd,

der'd, of each Two Drams;
of the best Myrrh pou-
der'd; half an Ounce; of
Camphire half a Dram.

Let it be made a Pouder.

Part of this may be enclos'd in a fine Silk Bag, and oftentimes dip it in *Pestilential Vinegar*, and so smell to it. To the other part of this, add *Oyl of Nutmegs* by Expression, and *Oyl of Cap-ivy*, of each a Dram, or as much as will make it into a Mass; also add of *Balsam of Peru* one Scruple. Dip Cotton Wool in *Elixir Proprietatis*, inclose it in fine Silk, and put it in the head of a Staff, or Civet Box, to smell to.

For Medicines to hold in the Mouth, and chew on, Roots of

Zedoary, Contrayerva, and Snake-weed are very good; also Roots of Enula campane, Angelica, and Masterwort; these either alone, or macerated in Vinegar, and dried again. Myrrh is very excellent; Some commend Tobacco, and chew it almost continually.

These are the chiefest Remedies which help to keep Infection out of the Body. There is yet another sort which serves to let it out, and carry it away, before it grows to a head, viz. Issues, which have been found by often experience to be good Preservatives in time of Plague: For as much as Nature having a constant vent for excrementitious matter thrown off the Blood, by the same way expels poysinous Atoms soon after they are receiv'd into the Body.

Con-

Concerning Rules of Diet I need not say much, because such Precepts are commonly known : 'Tis to be observ'd in general, that only wholesome Food should be taken : Very salt Meats, as hang'd Beef, Bacon, Pork, salt Fish, also shell-Fish, most kind of Herbage and raw Fruit should be avoided. The Meals should be moderate, and eaten in due season. Some Antidotal Things may be taken with the Meat, or mix'd in the Sauce ; *Clove Gilloflowers* pickled, also *Citron* Peel and Juice, *Rasberries*, *Currants*, *Pomegranate* Juices, *Pestilential Vinegar*, and *Mustard*, made with the Seeds of *Thlaspi*, may be of some good effect.

These kind of Remedies, and manner of living, ought chiefly to be insisted on as Preservatives against

against the Plague. Those that are timorous and of tender Constitutions require a support from the use of more means ; whereas Persons that are strong, and of a bold temper, have need of the less Remedies. But 'tis not safe for any to be so confident as to dare to converse with infected People, or live in the midst of Contagion without any Antidote at all.

In the use of means, caution is to be had, that strong and hot Cordials be not too often taken, nor yet indifferently by all People ; for that will inflame the Blood, and make it apt to kindle a Fever, which at such times soon turns to the Plague.

The like caution is to be had against immoderate drinking of Wine ; though a moderate proportion

portion chears and fortifies the Spirits, yet too much greatly disorders them, and thereby People are more expos'd to take Infection.

Letting of Blood in time of Plague has been observ'd to be ver' pernicious ; so also oft or strong Purging ; for the Veins being emptied either way, will readily suck in whatever poysinous Atoms lurk in the outward Pores of the Body, which being admitted, become the more prevalent, because the Spirits being depauperated, are less able to subdue or repel them.

Thus much of the way of Preservation : Next we are to treat of the Cure of those that are infected.

The Cure of the Plague admits of no Delay ; neither indeed

deed is there need of any deliberation what ought to be done ; but as soon as any one finds himself infected, let him forthwith take to his Bed, and having pray'd to Almighty God for his Blessing, begin to use the Means.

If the Party is much oppress'd at his Stomach, and strains to vomit, or else with vomiting throws up bitter and stinking Matter ; let him presently take a large draught of *Carduus*, or *Camomile* Posset-Drink, and in it either half a Dram of Salt of *Vitriol*, or two Ounces of Liquor of *Squills*, and with his finger or a Feather, fetch up what is contain'd in his Stomach ; but take no Antimonial Medicine, that will work beyond the Stomach.

As

As soon as he has vomited, [or if there is no occasion for this Evacuation] let him presently be put into a Sweat, and continue for twelve hours, more or less, according as his strength will hold out, and not sleep in it, or not till the latter end of it.

If when he begins to Sweat, or endeavours it, his Vomiting still persists, then apply to the pit of the Stomach a Toast of White-Bread, spread over with *Treacle or Mithridate*, and dipt in *Claret-Wine or Pestilential Vinegar*, made Scalding hot in a Peuter Dish; Wrap this in fine Linnen, and apply it very hot.

After a plentiful Sweat for twelve, fourteen, or eighteen hours, give him some Refective,

as

as Broth, Caudle, Mace-drink, or the like ; and a little while after suffer him to sleep if he can. Then give him temperate Cordials by way of Confection or Julep, or both ; which repeat every third or fourth hour : Also at the time that the Party settles to sleep, lay *Vesicatory* Plaisters behind the Ears, and under the Arm-pits, and also in the Groin.

After he has slept, or endeavour'd it, and his Spirits are pretty well refresh'd, at a moderate distance from the first sweating, *viz.* Eighteen, or Four and Twenty hours, sooner or later, according as Symptoms are more or less urgent, and his strength is able, repeat the Sweating again ; and so proceed through the whole Cure ; one while Sweating, and another

another while refreshing his Spirits by temperate Cordials and Sleep ; betwixt whiles administering fit Nourishment, until such time as the Symptoms are abated wholly, and either the Disease terminated, or else the Malignity is driven all out in Boyls or Carbuncles ; which how they must be order'd, shall be set down.

Though the same kind of Sudorificks may be given indifferently to most People, yet because there is variety of such Medicins, in respect both of the Matter and Form of them, therefore some choice may be had in the administration of them, that so we may comply with the Patient's taking them best in this or that kind of Form ; and also

so that those that are hotter be given to Persons of a cold Temper, and those Medicines which are more temperate to such whose Constitutions are hot: I shall set down several Forms of Sweating Medicines, which are given either in **Potion**, **Bolus**, or **Powder**.

Potions.

Take of Small Plague Water, Two Ounces, Pestilential Vinegar, half an Ounce; of Venice Treacle, one Dram; mingle them.

Take

Take of Compound Scordium Water two Ounces ; Treacle-Water half an Ounce, Venice Treacle one Dram , Salt of Wormwood one Scruple, Spirit of Vitriol Six Drops : Mingle them.

Take of Butter Burr-Water three Ounces, Venice Treacle, Di-scordium, of each one Dram, Pestilential Vinegar one Spoonful : Mix them.

D

Take

Take of Carduus Water
Four Ounces, Pestilential
Vinegar One Ounce,
Pestilential Extract One
Scruple: Mix them.

Or make some Posset-
Drink with Pestilential
Vinegar; in a Draught
of it dissolve one Dram,
or a Dram and a half, of
any of these Confections,
adding one Scruple of
Salt of Wormwood.

In a Spoonful or two of
Treacle-

Treacle-Water, or
 Vinegar, or both mix'd;
 give fifteen or twenty
 Drops of Spirit of
 Harts-horn, or of the
 simple Mixture from half
 a Dram to a Dram;
 or of Balsam of Sul-
 phur, from ten to twenty
 Drops, or fifteen Drops
 of Elixir Proprietatis.

For the Poorer sort, make
 Po. Drink with Pestilential Vine-
 gar, and boyl in it some Butter-
 Roast, and give a Draught hot.

Or make this Potion which
Henticus a Bta magnifies a-
 bove all other Remedies, from

the Experience of it in a great Plague once raging in his Country.

Take Celandine and Rue, of each one handful, Marigold Flowers half a handful; boyl these in a Quart of White-Wine Vinegar; strain it out, and keep it in a Glass Bottle; give two or three Spoonfuls; in which dissolve of Venice Treacle, or Mithridate, one Dram. This will provoke Sweat very powerfully.

Some

Some others commend a Decoction of *Guaiacum*, to provoke Sweat with it, as in the cure of the *French Pox.*

A plain Decoction of *Rue* in *White Wine*, with a little *Vinegar* added to it, is highly commended by others.

Seeds of *Rue* pouder'd, and one Dram of it mix'd with half a Dram of *Treacle*, dissolv'd with *White-Wine*, is accounted an excellent Sudorifick.

Sudorifick Medicines may be given in **Pouder** thus.



Take of Virginian Snake-weed, Contrayerva,

D 3 and

and Gascoigne Pouder,
or Lady Kent's Pouder,
of each one Scruple; give
it in two Spoonfuls of
Posset Drink, or of a
Cordial Julep, or in Sy-
rup of Gilloflowers.

Take Pouder of prepar'd
Toad *one Dram*, Pou-
der of Hyacinth *half a*
Dram: Mingle them.

Take of Bezoartica Mi-
neralis *half an Ounce*,
of Species Liberans
two Scruples, Camphire
eight

eight Grains : Mingle
them.

*Take of the Flower of
Sal Armoniac half a
Scruple, of Cerusse of
Antimony one Scruple,
of Bole Armenick
one Scruple : Mingle
them.*

*Give any of these in a Spoon-
ful or two of any Liquor, or
in a Spoonful of Sack, with as
much Pestilential Vinegar; half
an hour after, drink a draught
of Posset-Drink with Medesweet,
or Woodforrel boyld in it.*

*Take of the Pouder of Ivy
Berries one Dram; give
it in a draught of warm
White-Wine, with a
Spoonful of Pestilential
Vinegar.*

*Take Pouder of the
Roots of Carline
Thistle; Give it in the
same manner.*

*Likewise Pouder of But-
ter Burr Root, given in
the same manner, provok-
eth Sweat powerfully, and
expelleth*

[41]

*expelleth the Poyson of the
Plague.*

*Take of Zedoary Root
that is gummy and
sound, one Ounce, Sugar
Candy one Ounce and
an half, Camphire half
an Ounce ; mix all in a
fine Pouder : The Dose
is one Dram in some
distill'd Water.*

If the Patient can best take
his Medicine in a **Bolus**.

*Take of Venice Treacle
one Dram, Tormentile
Roots, Bole prepar'd,
of*

of each one Scrapple, Sy-
rup of Gilloflowers
as much as sufficeth.

Take Diascordium, Con-
fectio Liberans, of
each half a Dram, or
two Scruples, Salt of
Wormwood one Scru-
ple, Conserve of Roses
vitriolated half a Dram,
Syrup of Gillo-
flowers as much as is
sufficient.

Take of Conserve of
Roses half a Dram,
Balsam of Sulphur,
fifteen

fifteen Drops; mix them.

Take Posset Drink
half an hour, or an
hour after any of
these.

When many People are sick,
and there is not leisure to com-
pound every Dose of these Medi-
cines severally, there should be
a large mixture of each kind made
up together, which may imme-
diately, and without trouble be
distributed into Doses.

For Sweating Potions thus.

Take a Quart of Small
Plague Water, of Com-
pound Water of Scor-
dium

dium and Pestilential Vinegar, of each a Quarter of a Pint, of Syrup of Gillo-flowers two Ounces, Venice Treacle one Ounce, of Diascordium and Confectio Liberans, of each half an Ounce, Pestilential Extract, Salt of Wormwood, of each two Drams; put all together in a large Glass, shake them well together, and after it has stood Four and Twenty Hours, make

make use of it: Pour out
tbree Ounces of the clear,
and two Ounces of it
turbid or shaken just
before: This may serve
for fourteen or six-
teen days.

Mix a Pouder thus.

Take of the Pouder of Con-
fectio Liberans, one
Ounce, Roots of Con-
trayerva, Virginian-
Snakeweed, Tor-
mentile, Bole pre-
par'd, of each two Drams,
of the Claws of Crabs
pouder'd

(46)

*pouder'd, half an Ounce, mix
all very well.* The Dose
is from one Dram to
one Dram and a half,
or two Drams.

*Or take of the Pouders of
Prepar'd Toad one Ounce,
and of Confectio Li-
berans half an Ounce, mix
them.* The Dose is
from one Dram to
one Dram and a half.

For an *Electuary* to be distri-
buted into several Doses, that of
Hermannus Gander Heyden is
a very good one, and as he af-
ferts,

ferts, approved by frequent Experience.

Take of Diascordium one Ounce and a half, of Venice Treacle two Drams, of Confectio Hyacinthi one Dram, Pouder of Nutmegs, Rue Seeds, Root of Angelica, Enulacampane, of each one Dram and a half, Wine Vinegar (or rather Pestilential Vinegar) one Ounce, Oyl of Sulphur fifteen drops, Syrup of Juice of Citron as much

much as sufficeth: make up all together. The Dose is from one Dram and a half to two Drams.

Or take of Conserve of Wood Sorrel, half a Pound, of Mithridate four Ounces. The Dose is two Drams.

In time of Sweating, give the Patient Posset Drink made with Pestilential *Vinegar*; boyl in the Milk *Scordium* or *Marigold Flowers*; if he is very dry, boyl *Medesweet*, or *Wood Sorrel*; if he is ill at Stomach, and apt to vomit or faint, give *Claret Wine* burnt with *Cinnamon*

namon and *Zedoary Root*, and *Mint Water* mix'd with it: Or else give him *Beer* boyl'd with a *Crust of Bread* and *Mace*, and sweetn'd with *Sugar*. Besides, to the richer sort give now and then a draught of a *Cordial Julep*, and sometimes a Dose of a *Cordial E-lectuary*; which kind of Medicines should be given likewise after Sweating is over, once in three or four hours, of one or other, to refresh the Spirits, and to keep the Malignity from the Heart. Give him no cold *Beer* in two or three days. After Sweating wash the Mouth with *White-wine Vinegar* and *Rose Water*: Also dip a Spunge in the same warm, and gently stroke the Temples of the Head, and Nostrils with the same.

E Between

Between whiles give of the Medicines following.

Take Woodsorrel Water, and Dragon-Water, of each Four Ounces; Scordium Water, two Ounces; Treacle Water (or Plague Water) one Ounce and a half; Syrup of Gillo-flowers (or of Juice of Citrons) two Ounces; Pearle finely powder'd one Scruple; Spirit of Vitriol twelve Drops: Mix them.

Or

Or make a Decoction thus.

*Take of Harts-Horn
rasp'd, and Ivory, of each
three Drams; a Pear
main sliced, Wood-
forrel half an handful:
Boyl these in three Pints
of Water, till a third
part is wasted; Strain
it on two Ounces of Con-
serve of Gilloflowers,
or Woodforrel, or
Red Roses: Let it
infuse an hour: then stir it,
and strain it out: Give a
Quarter of a Pint warm.*

Whereas we give Emulsions
 E 2 made

made with such a Decoction and Almonds, and cold Seeds in Fevers, **Diemerbroek** affirms, upon his frequent Observation, *Emulsions* never do well in the Plague.

*Take of the Conserve
of Woodsorrel four
ounces, of the Rob of
Goosberries or Ras-
berries two Ounces,
Species Diarrhodon
Abbatis two Drams,
Confectionis Libe-
rantis one Dram and a
half, of Prepar'd Pearl
half a Dram, Red Co-
ral prepar'd one Dram,
with a sufficient quantity
of*

of Syrup of Juice of Citron : Let it be made an Opiate : The Dose is one or two Drams often in a day.

Sometimes the Plague is accompanied with dangerous Symptoms, to which if Remedies are not suddenly applied, all we do besides is to little purpose. Such Accidents, which call for respective ways of Cure, are chiefly *Fluxes of Blood*, and *Loosness of the Belly*, and *Vomiting*.

The first use to happen several ways, *viz.* at the Nose and Mouth, by Stool or Urine, by the *Hæmorrhoids*, and in Women by Menstrual Purgations : Some

of which, as by Urine always, and oft times by Stool, are mortal; none of them ever tend to good. Therefore in all such cases, Remedies must be administered which may stop Bleeding: And though Sweating and Resection of the Spirits be still the principal intention of Cure; yet the other must come in as collateral with both of them; and Medicines that restrain Fluxes of Blood be mixed both with Sudorificks and other Cordials, and also be administered with Diet too.

In all *Hæmorrhages* Sudorificks must be compounded of Medicines that are temperate, and not astringent.

For

For **Potions** they be made thus

*Take Pimpernel Water,
or Tormentil Water
two Ounces, of Scordi-
um Water six Drams,
of Vinegar that has
Tormentil Roots in-
fus'd in it, two Drams,
Confection of Hya-
cinth one Dram, of pre-
par'd Bole half a Dram,
Extract of Tormen-
til one Scruple, of Sy-
rup of Coral three
Drams.*

E 4

Or

*Or make Posset Drink
with Tormentil Vine-
gar, boyl in it a Root
of Tormentil and
Bistort; in one draught
of it dissolve of Venice
Treacle two Scruples,
Confection of Hya-
cinth, prepar'd Bole,
of each one Scruple.*

*Make this Apozeme, and give
two or three Ounces three or four
times in a day.*

*Take of Tormentil Roots
half an Ounce, Bistort
three Drams, Red San-
ders*

ders one Dram, of
Pomegranate Peel one
Dram, St. Johns Wort,
Plantane and Burnet,
of each half a handful;
Flowers of Roses,
and Pomegranates,
of each one Dram and a
half; of Plantane Seeds
one Dram: Boyl these in
three Pints of Water till
a Pint is wasted; strain
it, and add to it of Sy-
rup of Coral two
Ounces, Confection of
Hyacinth two Drams:
Mingle them.

Pouders

Pouders may be com-
pounded thus.

*Take of Confectio Li-
berans, or Confecti-
on of Hyacinth half
a Dram; Tormentil
Roots, Fine Bole, of
each one Scruple; Pearl
and Coral prepar'd,
of each half a Scruple:
Give it in a Spoonful
of Syrup of Coral, with
a Spoonful of Tor-
mentil Vinegar.*

Make

Make a **Bolus** thus.

Take Confection of Hyacinth and Venice Treacle, of each half a Dram; Tormentil Roots and prepar'd Bole, of each one Scruple; of Extract of Tormentil half a Scruple, of prepar'd Pearl six Grains, of Syrup of Coral as much as is sufficient.

For **Juleps** and **Confecti-**
ons, to give in, and betwixt
Sweating,

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Sweating, they be compounded thus.

Take of Medesweet Water eight Ounces, small Plague Water, Scordium Compound Water, of each three Ounces; of Syrup of Coral two Ounces, Confection of Hyacinth two Drams, of Tormentil Vinegar half an Ounce; Mix them: Give four or five Spoonfuls every third hour.

Or take of Conserve of Red

Red Roses *four Ounces*,
of prepar'd Coral *two Drams*, of prepar'd
Pearl *half a Dram*,
Confection of Hya-
cinth and Alkermes,
of each one Dram, of
. Tormentil Vinegar
half an Ounce; or as much
as is sufficient: Make it
up into an Electuary:
Give once in three
or four hours as
much as a Nutmeg.

These kinds of Remedies, which
are proper in *Hæmorrhages*, are
also to be used in *Fluxes* of the
Belly; likewise by Women with
Child,

Child, because other more hot Medicines may provoke an Abortion.

Make **Tormentil Vinegar** thus.

Take Roots of Tormentil, Bistort dried and sliced, of each an Ounce, Cinnamon half an Ounce, Red Sanders one Dram : Bruise all very well, and put to it a Quart of White-Wine Vinegar ; digest it in a common Furnace for four days : At the same time take Red and White Coral finely pouder'd,

pouder'd, of each half
an Ounce ; Dragons
Blood, Blood-Stone,
of each one Dram ; Fine
Bole, two Drams : Di-
gest these in the same
manner with a Quart of
Vinegar : Then strain
out both the Li-
quors, and mix them.

Let Extract of Tormentil
Roots be made thus.

Take Tormentil and Bi-
stort-Roots, of each one
Ounce ; of Cinnamon
half an Ounce, of Red
Sanders

Sanders two Drams ;
Salt of Wormwood
half an Ounce ; bruise
all together, adding of
Tormentil Vinegar
two Ounces ; put it in
a Vessel to digest with
three Pints of Mede-
sweet Water : Strain
it, and evaporate it with
a gentle heat in **Balneo**
Mariæ to the Consisten-
cy of Honey.

In the Cure of the Plague, if
a course of Sweating, timely ad-
ministred, do plentifully succeed,
and withal other private Excre-
tions be either prevented or pre-
sently

fently supprest, the Patient may be judg'd to be in a hopeful condition ; and sometimes the Venom is quite expell'd, without any other accident : But for the most part, because the Poyson, by fermenting the Blood and Humours, is soon greatly encreas'd ; so that all of it, especially the grosser Particles, cannot easily evaporate, it settles in the outward Parts, and there causeth the swelling and breaking out of divers kinds : Those that require any application of Remedies, are **Boils** and **Carcuncles**.

The first of these commonly happen in Parts that are very Glandulous ; as behind the Ears, under the Armpits, and in the

F Groin :

Groin : They arise with a hard Swelling, which ought to suppurate and break, and the Corruption to be drawn all out, by the running of the Sore for some time : These Tumors call'd **Bubo's**, should be ordered thus.

If a Blister is not rais'd on, or near the place already, 'tis good to apply a *Vesicatory Plaster* just below it, but on the Tumor it self to apply some drawing Medicine, to attract the Venom outward ; as at first, the Fundament of some living Fowl, or else a *Colewort-Leaf* dipt in scalding Water, and dried again, and smear'd over with *Oyl of Lillies* or *Scorpions*. To ripen the Sore, lay on Pultises or Plasters ; or rather first Pultises, and then

then Plasters, when it tends to suppuration; which should be renew'd every twelve hours at least.

For Pultises.

Take an Onion and White Lilly Roots, boyl them, or else wrap them in a wet Paper, and roast them in the Embers, afterward stamp both together, adding a little Treacle, and Oyl of Lillies as much as is sufficient: Or else roast a Fig with either or both these above-nam'd,

F 2 and

and make a Pultis in the same manner: Or else with either, or all above-named Remedies, add an handful of Scabious or Sorrel wash'd; and after beat all into a Pultis.

Take Pimpernel roasted on the Embers, mollifie it with Oyl of Scorpions, adding a little Pouder of Myrrh and Venice Treacle, and lay it to the Sore.

Some

*Some do commend live
Frogs to be applyed,
and renew'd as oft as they
die.*

*For a Plaister to break the
Sore when it is o-
pen'd, Diachylon with
Gums; or else those two
Emplaisters, viz. Em-
plastrum Paracelsi,
and de Fuligine, men-
tion'd by Diemerbroek,
pag. 213. Paracelsus his
Plaister is there thus
order'd to be made.*

F 3

Take

Take of Gum Oppopanax two Ounces, Sera-
phin or Sagapen four Ounces, Bdellium three Ounces, Galbanum one Ounce, Olibanum two Drams; let them be dissolved in Vinegar, and strain'd, and adding the Pouder of a dried Toad and Frog, of Natural Brimstone one Ounce, of Camphire one Dram: Let it be made a Plaister to be

be put upon the
Tumor, and renew-
ed every six hours.

Emplastrum de Fuligine,
or **Plaister of Soot**, is thus
made.

*Take of Chimney Soot
ten Drams, Leaven,
Turpentine, Butter,
of each one Ounce, Ve-
nice Sope one Ounce
and a half, of Honey
of Roses six Drams,
Common Salt half
an Ounce, the Whites
of two Eggs, Tre-
F 4 cle*

cle and Mithridate,
of each two Drams ;
Let them be mixed.

For the Poorer sort,
Shoemakers Wax is
as good as any.

If when the Tumor is ripen'd,
it do not soon break of it self,
it is best to open it by Incision ;
and when it is broken, put in a
Pledget dipp'd in Turpentine
mix'd with the Yolk of an Egg ;
or dress it with *Basilicon* alone,
or the Liniment of *Arceus*.

A Carbuncle, which is the
other kind of Plague-Sore, which
requires the operation of the
hand, happens but seldom in
any of the Emunctories [and
when

when it does it portends ill] but useth to be in most places else: It ariseth with angry *Pustules*, sometimes one, sometimes many; which soon grow discolour'd, and tend to Mortification, and the substance mortified must be cast out, and then the hollow Ulcer which remains must be healed.

When a *Carbuncle* first appears, **Diemerbroek** commends to be applied to it for the first and second day, a *Red Colewort Leaf*, smear'd over with *Rape Oyl*: The same Author mentions a *Pultis* which he us'd for the most part, renewing it three or four times in four and twenty hours, till the Core was taken out; and then Digestive Medicines, and others succeed-

succceedingly are to be us'd, as in other Ulcers.

Take Scabious and Devils Bit, of each two or three handfuls, stamp them, and then beat them with the Yolks of two Eggs, and a little Salt ; lay it to the Carbuncle warm, renewing it three times in a day at least.

F I N I S.

A

P O E M

U P O N A

Laurel-Leaf.

Viris admodum Colendis,

P U B L I C Æ S C H O L Æ,

Vulgò dictæ,

Harrow super Montem,

G U B E R N A T O R I B U S,

V I Z.

Dnº CAROLO GERARD Baronetto.

Dnº EDVARDO WALDO Militi.

CHEEK GERARD,

DANIELI WALDO,

GULIELMO FEN,

EDVARDO WALDO,

Armigeris.

Hoc qualecunque Poema, *Gulielmus Bolton M.A.*

& ejusdem Scholæ Archi-didascalus, humiliè dedicat.

In LAURUM APOLLINI dicatam,
cujus Foliis (monitu Reverendi Viri
Domini Fisher, & iussu Honoratissimæ
Dominæ, Dominæ Gerard) usus sum,
quæ mihi Morbo articulari laboranti,
sæpe medicata sunt.

Convenere loco quodam flammantis Olympi
(Ut fama est) omnes Diæque simul.
Quæis placuit varias leges edicere, & inter
Istas, de Arboribus Lex fuit una rata.
Esto Jovis Quercus, Pinus Cybelæque dicata,
Populus Alcidi, Pallas, Oliva tibi.
Sit mibi, Bacchus ait, Vitis, dulcissima Vitis,
Deliciæque virum, deliciæque Deum.
Formosæ Veneris circundet tempora Myrtus,
Myrto cincta duas vicerat illa deas.
Sol memor & fati Phæthonis, & orbis adusti,
Depositus radios, qui nocuere, suos.
Pro radiis dixit, cingat mea tempora Laurus,
Sola caput nostrum Laurea sertæ tegant.
Nunc, Quam me juvat * esculeas dimittere frondes ?
Jupiter has solus, si placet, inquit, habe.
Sic Phæbus : risere Dii, risere Deæque ;
Et mira attonito res mibi visa fuit.
Quamvis attonito, causas tamen addere causis
Stat mibi, cur Phœbo Laurea sacra fuit.
Anne quod, aiebam, flammis data conscia Laurus
Dat strepitum, Dominum cœu miserata suum ?
An, quod perpetuo Laurus frondescit honore,
Et semper, Juvenis cœu Deus iste, viger ?
An, quod non sœvi fulmen rimet illa Tonantis,
Fulmen, quod Phæthon præcipitatus erat ?
An,

* Vide O-
vidii Me-
tam. l. I.

Upon the LAUREL, sacred to APOLLO,
 whose Leaves I made use of (by the Ad-
 vice of Mr. Fisher, and the repeated Com-
 mands of the Honourable the Lady Gerard)
 which have often cured me of a Rheu-
 matism.

Paraphrastically translated by T. F. Gent.

THE Gods and Goddesses, with joint Consent,
 Met once (as Fame reports) in Parliament,
 And there dispos'd, by high and firm Decrees,
 Of all Things; and, amongst the rest, of Trees.
Jove made *Dodona's* Noble Oak his Choice,
 His Right being first to an Elective Voice.
 The Mother-Goddess took the lofty Pine.
 The fruitful Olive was, *Minerva*, thine.
 And jolly *Bacchus* chose the spreading Vine.
 Sacred t' *Alcides* was the Poplar Tree : }
 The Myrtle, Beauteous Queen of Love, to thee.
 Let all the Grove turn round into a Ring,
 And bowing low, salute thy Myrtle King.
 'Twas made for Rule, tho' not for Empire fit
 By Native Worth, yet by thy Choice of it.
Apollo laid his too-bright Glories down,
 And wreath'd about his Head a Laurel Crown,
 Loving much less to be in Sun shine seen,
 Than clad in new and everlasting Green.
Jove turn'd about his Head, and smiling said,
 Now, now you have enjoy'd the flying Maid.
 Most thought the thing ridiculous and odd,
 A Choice too foolish for so wise a God ;
 And all did *Pallas* and *Lyans* praise,
 Who from their Trees both Wine and Oil could raise.

An, quod venturi narratur præscia, visa est
 Arbor Fatidico Laurea digna Deo?
 Nunc hanc, nunc aliam placuit mibi fingere causam,
 Quin causa incerta est ista, vel ista mibi.
 Arborem in hanc versâ de Daphnê fabula venit
 In mentem; haud placuit fabula at ista mibi.
 Ob fructum, dixi, Pallas dilexit Olivam;
 Neve minus prudens Pallade, Phœbus erat:
 Invenci tandem: Medicorum Divus Apollo est;
 Consului Medicos; bi retulere nihil.
 Ridebat quidam, si quisquam, verus amicus,
 Quique Lucas misero contulit alter opem;
 Ridebat, Quare, &c., Medicos tu consulis, inquit?
 Ut radios, Laurum donat Apollo tibi.
 Non capio, dixi: Non me capis, ille ferebat?
 Dat Phœbus gratis munera queque sua.
 Te Medici Laurum, te celavere, salutem
 Quamque Ars istorum non dabit, illa dabit.
 Vane, quid à Medicis posthac sperare licebit?
 Quum Needhamus opem non tulit ipse tibi.
 Non tulit ipse tibi; qui sèpe e faucibus atrae
 Mortis, te raptum reddidit arte suâ.
 Needhamus, cui non Medicorum opprobria dici
 Possunt, quem dolium noveris atque pium.
 Pergit: luce suâ quâ conspicit omnia, Phœbus
 Virtutem Lauro vidit inesse suæ.
 Nec desivit adhuc: Quendam vidisti n' amicum,
 More tui misero qui laceratus erat?
 Acceptam Lauro gratus fert ille salutem;
 Vidisti, erectus quam novus Æson adest?
 Arreptâ dextrâ Laurus tunc comiter usum
 Me docet; at surdis auribus ille canit.
 Morbo etiam atque etiam fueram distortus acuto;
 (Scilicet, haud Laurum corpora sana probent)
 Assurgit tandem mulier sata sanguine Regum,
 (Cui non est Virtus nobilitate minor)
 Hec, tanquam fuerat drvino concita motu,
 Uterer ut Lauro, tñ mibi jussa dedit.

Nec

I wonder'd likewise at an Act so vain,
 And feard the God had prejudic'd his Brain ;
 And sought a thousand Reasons in my Mind,
 T' excuse the Choice, but could no Reason find.
 I knew the Laurel had been always worn,
 And still the Heads of Poets did adorn ;
 But since the Rhiming Tribe are always poor,
 (For Father *Homer* begg'd from Door to Door)
 The Laurel was for *Mercury* more fit,
 As th' Emblem both of Poverty and Wit.
 At last, thought I, since *Phebus* has the Art,
 As God of Phylick, Med'cine to impart,
 Perhaps by Laurel he some way has found
 To cure an high Disease, or heal a Wound.
 I ask't the Doctors, whether it were so ;
 Who smiling at my Question, answered, No.
 But wiser *Fisher* better Comfort gave,
Fisher the Name of Second *Luke* may have ;
Fisher, that can both Souls and Bodies save.
 Consult Physicians, Friend, said he, no more,
 But take *Apollo's* much more bounteous Store ;
 He with a quick and all discerning Eye
 The secret Virtues did of Laurel spie.
 All may enjoy alike his Beams and Tree ;
 He scatters both his Blessings, frank and free ;
 Gives the best Physick, and yet takes no Fee.
 Dost thou not know, (thou canst not chuse but know)
 How our dear Friend was wrack't a while ago ?
 How your Disease did all his Limbs surprize ?
 A Torture, which almost all Art defies.
 Yet he no sooner did these Leaves apply,
 But he cry'd out aloud, I will not die.
 I feel, I change this heavy lump of Earth,
 And, *Aeson* like, receive a second Birth.
 This, and much more, my dear Friend *Fisher* told,
 And then began its Virtues to unfold.
 I stupid, hardly heard the Words he spake,
 Nor minded Counsel, I refus'd to take :

Monsieur
Meur.

'Till

Nec mora : continuò illius præcepta facesto,
 Atque manu capio munera, Phœbe, tua.
 Admorâ Lauro, morbi fugere dolores,
 Et sumunt vires corpora nostra novas :
 Auricomis ramis tutus sic Troïus Heros
 Tartarei vidit regna timenda Dei.
 Post Laurum acceptam, Quàm sum diversus ab isto
 Olim qui fueram ? Quàm novus alter ego ?
 Dissimilis primæ Domina es Gerarda Parenti ;
 Arbore tu vitam, contulit Eva necem.
 Visa tuo Regi in somnis dedit berba salutem,
 Quam medici haud dederant, sic Ptolomæe, tibi.
 Romano, multos hostes qui fudit, habere
 Appositam Laurum, fas erat, ante fores.
 Heu ! Quàm non decuit talem sacra Apollinis arbor ?
 Servâsse est Phœbi, non jugulâsse viros.
 Arbor pluris erit Phœbi, ratione medendi,
 (Si minimo vatuum scire futura dedit)
 Quid ? Laurum spectat Phœbus de sede coruscâ,
 Reddentem miseris corpora firma viris :
 In nunc, letus ait, mireris, Pallas, Olivam,
 Vitemque ostendas, ebrie Bacche, tuam.
 Afficiunt morbis mortales munera vestra ;
 E Lauro nostrâ est certa reperta salus.
 * v. Ovid. Quòd per te, Alma Pales *, valuere hominesq; gregesque,
 de Fast. Grata tuis fuerat Laurus adusta focis.
 L. 4. Nunc, per me, Medicis licet ingeminare cachinnos,
 Arborem Apollineam dilacerentque jocis.
 Gratus ego scribam : Vireat Phœbeia Laurus,
 Quâ mibi plus nummi, plusque salutis adest.

'Till by a Noble Lady order'd thrice,
I yielded to her safe and wise Advice.
The Propheteſis affirm'd, th' Effects were ſure,
And both at once foretold and made the Cure.
Tell me, my Muſe, for thou alone canſt tell,
What Magick in the beauteous Sex does dwell ?
What charming Witchcraft do the Fair invent,
To force, and yet perſuade us to conſent ?
Bleſt be the Sex, ſo apt and prone to ſave,
And bleſt the Tongue, which thoſe Injunctions gave.
What diſſ'rent Gifts do I from you receive,
From thoſe beſtow'd by my firſt Mother *Eve* ?
She brought in Death by one forbidden Tree,
You by another do new Life decree ;
And by an *A&t*, which nothing can conſute,
Have made the Leaf more noble than the Fruit :
For nothing, when I'm ſick, can that excel,
Which but to uſe and try, is to be well.
That healing Herb was ſomething like this Tree,
Which *Alexander* did in Vision ſee,
And did his Health to *Ptolemy* reſtore,
When the Physicians had quite gi'n him o're.
Rome (which allow'd t' each mighty Conqueror
To plant a Laurel tree before his Door)
Miſtook its Property, and plac'd it ill ;
The Laurel is to cure, and not to kill.
And therefore *Phæbus* values it as good,
Rather for ſaving, than for ſpilling Blood.
Now, O Physicians, torture whom you please
With naueous Potions, worse than the Disease.
Who'll now esteem thoſe Medicines you impart,
When one poor Leaf can baffle all your Art.
Mock as ye will, ye have my leave to grin ;
I'll truſt the Proverb, *Let them laugh that win* :
And will that ſafer Physick ſtill purſue,
Which gives me Health, and ſaves my Money too.

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